



IDEA'97 UPDATE

A MONTHLY FAX BULLETIN FROM OSERS ON IDEA'97 ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 22, 1998

VOL. II, No.3

STATE, LOCAL OFFICIALS, ADVOCATES, PARENTS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS MEET AT REGIONAL OSEP-SPONSORED INSTITUTES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT IDEA'97

Six Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)-sponsored Institutes, each covering one of 3 topics: Assessment, Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)/General Curriculum and Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS), were held in six sites around the country in late August and September. OSEP-sponsored technical assistance providers were primarily responsible for developing and presenting the agenda. Assistant Secretary Judy Heumann and OSEP Director Tom Hehir opened each presentation by way of videotape. OSEP Special Assistant, JoLeta Reynolds shared information about changes in the law, while the technical assistance providers shared best practices information. Each Institute was well-attended (over 150 individuals at each site) and gave each participant an opportunity to engage presenters and obtain in-depth materials on these topics. All six Institutes scheduled time for participants to meet as "State Teams" and create plans for sharing information throughout their State. At several sites, State Teams had the opportunity to share their plans with other teams. The OSEP-sponsored Regional and Federal Resource Center Network was the chief coordinator of each event. Institute sites were as follows: Fort Lauderdale (IEP/General Curriculum); Kansas City (PBS); Boston (Assessment); Los Angeles (IEP/General Curriculum); New Orleans (Assessment); and Columbus, Ohio (PBS). Each State Director and Parent Training Information Center have obtained a copy of the materials presented on all three topics.

For more information about who attended from your State, contact the OSEP Federal Resource Center at: frc@aed.org. For further information about the materials distributed, contact the following Regional Resource Center that serves your State:

NORTHEAST RRC (Serves: NY, VT, ME, NH, MA, CT) Telephone: (802) 658-5036, TTY: (802) 860-1428, Email: NERRC@aol.com;

MID-SOUTH RRC (Serves: DE, KY, MD, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV, DC) Telephone: (606) 257-4921, TTY: (606) 257-2903, Email: MSRRC@ihdi.uky.edu;

SOUTH ATLANTIC RRC (Serves: AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, OK, PR, TX, VI), Telephone: (334) 244-3879, Email: jwright@edla.aum.edu

GREAT LAKES RRC (Serves: IN, IL, MI, MN, OH, PA, WI) Telephone: (614) 447-0844, TTY: (614) 447-8776, Email: daniels.121@osu.edu

MOUNTAIN PLAINS RRC (Serves: CO, IA, KS, MO, NE, ND, SD, UT, WY), Telephone: (Utah) (801) 752-0238, TTY: (801) 753-9750, (Drake) (515) 271-3936, Email: (Utah) cope@cc.usu.edu, (Drake) Gary_Dannenbring@drake.edu

WESTERN RRC (Serves: AK, AZ, AS, CA, NMI, FSM, Guam, HI, ID, NV, OR, RMI, RP, WA), Telephone: (541) 346-5641, TTY: (541) 346-0367, Email: wrrc@oregon.uoregon.edu

UPCOMING OSEP-SPONSORED CONFERENCES -- NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1998

Title of Conference: Technology and the Education of Children with Disabilities: Stepping Stones to the 21st Century.

Description: This is a cross-project directors meeting of technology-related projects funded under IDEA.

Dates: November 18- 20, 1998

Location: Washington, D.C.

For more information contact: Dave Malouf, OSEP, (202) 205-8111

OSEP MEMORANDA TO THE FIELD -- MARCH TO OCTOBER 1998

The following is a listing of some of the OSEP correspondence and letters pertaining to IDEA'97 implementation that have gone to the field from March through October 1998. (Online) next to the memo title, denotes that it can be accessed from the IDEA'97 web site at: www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/IDEA/memo.html.

July 1, 1998 -- Letter to Chief State School Officers providing a status report on the final regulations for IDEA'97.(online)

July 1, 1998 -- Letter to Directors of Parent Training Institutes providing a status report on the final regulations for IDEA'97. (online)

April 28, 1998 -- OSEP Memorandum(OSEP 98-8) to Chief State School Officers and Directors of Special Education entitled: Effective Date of the New IEP Requirements (online)

STATUS OF THE IDEA AMENDMENTS OF 1997 REGULATIONS

The Department is working hard to complete the final regulations as soon as possible. We are making every effort to ensure publication of the final regulations as quickly as possible, without jeopardizing the quality and clarity of the document's contents.

(EDITORS NOTE: Please remember to share these UPDATES with others.

Let us know what you would like to hear from the Office of Special Education Programs. Thank you for your continuing support.)

For further information, contact:

202-205-5507 (V/TTY), 202-260-0416 (FAX)

For comments on IDEA'97 UPDATE:

PLEASE E-MAIL: patricia_adelstein@ed.gov

www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP